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PHIL 200.03: Ethics - The Great Traditions

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ETHICS: THE GREAT TRADITIONS

I. Readings

We will read the texts in the following order and spend about three weeks on each.

- (1) Mill, Utilitarianism (all of it).
- (2) Kant, Foundations of the Metaphysics of Morals, 1st and 2nd sections.
- (3) Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, Books I-V and X.
- (4) Gilligan, In a Different Voice (all of it).
- (5) Welch, Fools Crow (all of it).

II. Requirements

There will be a 20 minute test every Thursday except on October 29. The first test will be on Thursday, September 10. Each test will consist of (a) three questions that will test your command of the course content and are to be answered with brief statements of about 30 words total for each question, and (b) an essay question to be answered in 150 or so words that identifies the context of a passage taken from the readings and reflects your agreement or disagreement with the passage.

The primary grade will be given for the answers to the course content questions. The response to the essay question will be graded E (excellent), P (passing), or U (unsatisfactory) on the basis of substance, style, grammar, and spelling. If E, the course content grade will be raised by two steps (e.g., from C to B-); if P, the course content grade will be raised by one step (e.g., C to C+); if U, the course content grade will be lowered by one step (e.g., from C to C-).

On the day of the final, Tuesday, December 15, at 8:00 AM, there will be a final test of (a) twelve course content questions, nine drawn from previous tests, three on the material of the preceding week, and (b) an essay question on selected readings to be answered in 300 or so words. The final test will have the weight of three ordinary tests.

You can miss one test (except the final one). If you take all tests, the lowest grade (or a third of the final if that is your lowest grade) will be dropped. You can make up a test missed for medical reasons if you provide a statement from your physician or the Health Service. Otherwise you will receive an F for a missed test.

III. Note

September 21 is the last day to add and drop courses by phone.

October 12 is the last day to add and drop classes and change the grading option by paper form.

Office Hours:

Borgmann: MWF, 8-9 AM and by appointment. LA 149.
Phone and messages: 243-2792.

Please let us know if you have a disability so that we can make accommodations.